PATENT

DOCKET NO.: DXYC-0039/03-0501D Application No.: 10/561,768 Office Action Dated: March 9, 2009

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

(Currently amended) A method of producing <u>at least two nanoporous a</u>

nanoporous carbide-derived carbon eomposition <u>compositions</u> with a tunable pore structure and
a narrow pore size whose mean diameter differs by in the range of about 0.05 nm to about 0.2

nm comprising

(a) reacting a first quantity of extracting metals from a carbide composition to produce a carbide-derived carbon, said extracting being performed with a halogen at an a first elevated temperature in the range of about 200°C to about 1400°C, to produce nanopores in a first quantity of carbide-derived carbon characterized as having a nanopore size distribution having a full width at half maximum of less than 100% of its mean pore diameter,—so that a nanoporous carbide-derived carbon composition with a tunable pore structure and a desired pore size is produced.—;

- (b) reacting a second quantity of the carbide composition with the halogen at a second temperature in the range of from about 200°C to about 1400°C, to produce nanopores in a second quantity of carbide-derived carbon characterized as having a mean nanopore diameter that differs by in the range of about 0.05 nm to about 0.2 nm than the mean pore diameter of the first quantity.
 - (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the carbide is Ti₃SiC₂.
 - (Cancelled).
- (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the elevated at least one of the first and second temperatures temperature is between 200-1400°C is in the range of from about 300°C to about 1200°C.

DOCKET NO.: DXYC-0039/03-0501D Application No.: 10/561,768 Office Action Dated: March 9, 2009

 (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the elevated temperature is above 700°C at least one of the first and second temperatures is in the range of from about 300°C to about 800°C.

 (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the tunability of the difference between the first and second mean nanopore diameter is about pore size is achieved with within 0.05 nm accuracy.

(Cancelled).

- (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the nanopore size distribution of the second quantity of carbide-derived carbon is substantially the same as the first quantity of carbide-derived carbon.
- (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the difference between the first and second mean pore diameter is about 0.1 nm.
- 10. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the carbide composition comprises a carbide of B, Mo, Si, Ti, Ta, Mo, or a mixture thereof.
 - 11. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the halogen comprises chlorine.
- (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the mean nanopore size diameter of at least one of the carbide-derived carbons is less than about 2 nm.
- 13. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the mean nanopore size diameter of at least one of the carbide-derived carbons is less than about 1 nm

DOCKET NO.: DXYC-0039/03-0501D PATENT

Application No.: 10/561,768 Office Action Dated: March 9, 2009

14. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein the nanopore size distribution of at least one of the carbide-derived carbons has a full width at half maximum of less than about 0.5

nanometers

15. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising reacting at least one additional

quantity of the carbide composition with the halogen at a temperature in the range of from about

200°C to about 1400°C, to produce a nanoporous composition characterized as having a mean

pore diameter that differs by in the range of 0.05 nm to about 0.2 nm than the mean pore

diameter of the first quantity or the second quantity.

16. (New) A method of manufacturing a nanoporous carbon composition with a

predetermined mean nanopore size comprising:

a) reacting two or more carbide calibration quantities, each of the same initial

composition and form, with halogen gas at two or more fixed reaction temperatures for times sufficient to provide a two or more nanoporous carbide-derived carbon calibration compositions,

wherein each fixed temperature is in the range of from about 200°C to about 1400°C;

b) measuring the mean nanopore sizes of the resulting nanoporous carbide-derived

carbon calibration compositions;

c) correlating the measured nanopore sizes of the resulting nanoporous carbide-

derived carbon calibration compositions with the corresponding fixed times and reaction

temperatures;

d) identifying the time and temperature corresponding to the predetermined range of

nanopore sizes; and

Page 4 of 17

DOCKET NO.: DXYC-0039/03-0501D Application No.: 10/561,768 Office Action Dated: March 9, 2009

reacting a manufacturing quantity of the carbide with the halogen at the time and temperature conditions identified as corresponding to the predetermined range of nanopore sizes.